

CLAIMS:

1. A fiber optic connector assembly, comprising:
an outer connector housing having a front mating end, a rear end and a through passage extending between the ends and defining an optic axis, the housing having a first key in the passage at a given position angularly about the optic axis;
5 an inner optical fiber plug for terminating at least one optical fiber of a fiber optic cable, the plug being disposed in the through passage in the housing with a front ferrule portion of the plug terminating the optical fiber at the front mating end of the housing, with the fiber optic cable extending from the rear end of the housing; and
a key ring rotatably mounted about the plug and fixable on the plug at selected
10 positions of rotational adjustment, the key ring having a second key lockable with the first key on the housing once the key ring is fixed on the plug;
whereby the plug can be rotated to the optimum position of angular adjustment of the optical fiber relative to the optic axis, the key ring can be fixed to the plug with the second key on the key ring aligned with the first key on the housing, and the keys can be locked to fix
15 the angular position of the plug relative to the housing.
2. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 1 wherein said first key comprises a recessed keyway in the through passage of the housing, and said second key comprises a key member projecting from the key ring.
3. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 2, including a pair of said keyways at opposite sides of the passage, and a complementary pair of key members on diametrical opposite sides of the key ring.
4. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 2 wherein said recessed keyway is located in a socket in the through passage of the housing for receiving a plug portion of the optical fiber plug, the key ring being disposed about and fixable to the plug portion.
5. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 1 wherein said key ring is fixable to the optical fiber plug at any of said selected positions by an adhesive.

6. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 1 wherein said first key comprises a recessed keyway in the key ring and said second key comprises a key member projecting from the through passage of the housing.

7. A fiber optic connector assembly, comprising:
an outer connector housing defining an optic axis in a through passage, with a first key in the passage at a given position angularly about the axis; and
5 an inner optical fiber plug disposed in the passage and including a second key movably positionable about the periphery of the plug to different selected positions of rotational adjustment for the plug, the plug terminating an optical fiber, and the second key being fixable on the plug at any selected position and lockable with the first key on the housing to fix the angular position of the plug relative to the housing and, thereby, fix the
10 rotational position of the optical fiber angularly of the optic axis.

8. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 7 wherein said first key comprises a recessed keyway in the through passage of the housing, and said second key comprises a key member for projection into the recessed keyway.

9. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 8, including a pair of said keyways at opposite sides of the passage, and a complementary pair of key members on diametrical opposite sides of the key ring.

10. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 8 wherein said recessed keyway is located in a socket in the through passage of the housing for receiving a plug portion of the optical fiber plug, the key ring being disposed about and fixable to the plug portion.

11. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 7 wherein said second key is fixed to the optical fiber plug at any position of rotational adjustment by an adhesive.

12. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 7 wherein said first key comprises a recessed keyway in the key ring and said second key comprises a key member projecting from the through passage of the housing.

13. A method of adjusting the rotational position of an optical fiber angularly of an optic axis in a fiber optic connector assembly, comprising the steps of:

providing an outer connector housing defining the optic axis in a through passage of the housing and with a first key in the passage at a given position angularly about the axis;

5 positioning an optical fiber plug in the passage with a second key on the plug lockable with the first key on the housing, and the second key being movably positionable about the periphery of the plug to different selected positions of rotational adjustment for the plug, and with the plug terminating an optical fiber;

10 rotating the plug relative to the second key to a selected position of rotational adjustment corresponding to an optimum angular position of the optical fiber;

fixing the second key to the plug at said selected position of angular adjustment; and locking the first and second keys to hold the plug in the selected position of angular adjustment.

14. The method of claim 13, including providing said second key on a key ring rotatably mounted about the optical fiber plug.

15. The method of claim 14, including providing said first key as a recessed keyway in the through passage in the housing, and providing said second key as a key member projecting from the key ring.

16. The method of claim 15, including providing a pair of said keyways at opposite sides of the passage, and providing a complementary pair of key members on diametrical opposite sides of the key ring.

17. The method of claim 15, including locating said recessed keyway in a socket in the through passage of the housing for receiving a plug portion of the optical fiber plug, and disposing the key ring about the plug portion and fixing the key ring thereto.

18. The method of claim 13, including the step of fixing the second key to the optical fiber plug by an adhesive.

19. The fiber optic connector assembly of claim 13 wherein said first key comprises a recessed keyway in the key ring and said second key comprises a key member projecting from the through passage of the housing.